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XEROX

It is axiomatic that a university is effective only within the limits imposed by its library. Energetic effort on the part of administration and alumni, a healthy program of scholarship aid, and attractive physical surroundings can bring a select body of students with a high potential for intellectual development onto any campus. But such students will remain only if the university can attract a faculty of good teachers and good scholars, men who are thirsty for new facts and new interpretations. This thirst is satisfied within the atmosphere of books, precisely, within the library.

It is an open secret that the prestige of the American university system has traditionally been centered in the great institutions of the eastern seaboard: Harvard, Yale, and a host of smaller, selective colleges and universities close to them. These schools for decades received and produced the best students because for decades they attracted the best faculties, indeed were able to draw men almost at will from the staffs of universities throughout the country. The cause was very simple: they possessed the greatest libraries in America.

The past came to America through Harvard in the seventeenth century. Not only did Harvard College establish the earliest institutional collection of books in New England, but throughout the seventeenth century it was able to enhance that collection by acquiring numbers of volumes from the private libraries of the Founding Fathers. At the beginning of the eighteenth century, a short sixty years after Harvard's opening, Yale was established and began collecting its great holdings. For one hundred and fifty years these universities were unchallenged centers to which farsighted friends of education donated books and the money to buy books. Wealth attracts wealth and books attract books, as individual after individual see the exciting possibilities opened by growing collections housed together. And books attract scholar-teachers.

Time was on the side of Harvard and Yale. Dozens of volumes were available for a few dollars or even a few pennies in 1650 or 1700 which now cost many thousands of dollars when they appear in the auction listings once in a decade or less often. Literally thousands of volumes entered the Harvard libraries at negligible cost which can now be purchased at infrequent intervals only by alert institutions which are also able to pay one hundred, five hundred, or a thousand dollars for each coveted item.

Competition, however, did arise. In 1875 the John Hopkins University was established in Baltimore, one of the earliest printing centers in America, strategically located between Philadelphia, a city made book-conscious by its first citizen Benjamin Franklin, and Washington, site of the growing Library of Congress. Acknowledging itself from the outset to be primarily a research institution, the Hopkins at once began

to acquire great scholars (many of them eminent men from abroad) and a collection of books to serve their special interests. Over the years the Hopkins Libraries have coordinated their acquisitions plans with those of the rich private collection in the Peabody Institute and Musical Conservatory, established in Baltimore earlier than John Hopkins, a policy which has enabled both institutions to invest economically in rare books. In the 1930's John Hopkins scholars in the humanities benefitted enormously from the establishment in Washington of the Folger Shakespeare Library with its almost incomparable collection of Tudor and Stuart books. Baltimore-Washington-Philadelphia, then, through both good fortune and good planning, became a scholarly axis, with its center at John Hopkins, which was able to rival the monopolistic stature of Harvard and Yale.

Not much later John D. Rockefeller was creating from the hapless little University of Chicago, burned out of existence in the great fire of 1871, another important university. In the closing years of the nineteenth century the University of Chicago was able to establish itself firmly for reasons almost opposite to those which account for the rise of Johns Hopkins at the same period: its location was so removed from the mainstream of American intellectual life and resources that the energies of the entire Middle West, under the philanthropic lead of Rockefeller, were poured into building a new center available to westerners. Chicago inherited several extensive and rich collections of books, primarily the Berlin Collection and the holdings of the old Baptist Theological Seminary which became the University's divinity school. It was therefore able to open its doors with nearly two hundred thousand carefully selected volumes--a ready-made nucleus which guaranteed successful building.

It was not until well into the twentieth century that a handful of the wealthiest state-supported institutions began investing large sums with the aim of building academic libraries which might approach those of the great leaders who had gained their advantage during the years when books were less widely in demand and competition for their purchase was less energetic. Of such institutions perhaps the University of Illinois is the most notable. It not only collected at incalculable cost a superb research library but also managed to supplement its general holdings with special collections, such as the almost exhaustive gathering of early editions of Milton's poems, and important manuscript collections, such as the H. G. Wells papers. But few universities in this century have been wealthy enough or far-sighted enough to build research libraries of such a calibre.

Nonetheless, at about the time of the Second World War, two interdependent phenomena developed. Universities throughout the country began rapidly increasing their library budgets, aware that new opportunities as well as new demands were arising through the growing college population which was stimulated by the return of government-supported veterans. At many institutions budgets doubled and tripled, over the course of a year, and then doubled again. The real competition for prominence in the academic world had begun, and the wiser schools early realized that prominence depends upon faculty and that the quality of faculty ultimately depends upon library resources. It was only natural that to take advantage of this great new buyers' market the book dealers should come forth with astronomical price increases. For a short time librarians turned away from American sources for rare and out-of-print books, looking to England and the Continent. But soon foreign catalog prices

grew so rapidly that American dealers were once again in a competitive situation, even though their own increases had at times become irresponsible. Furthermore, even when money was no consideration, many libraries found, perforce, that the books could not be had.

Fortunately, however, the second phenomenon appeared as if in answer to the new desire to build university collections. This phenomenon was microfilming, the reproduction, at an economical price on small rolls of film, of books which were often unavailable. Microfilm had distinct advantages. At a very small cost it placed valuable books in the hands of many scholars whose institutions might have been sadly unable to support the purchase price of an original edition. Furthermore, as libraries grew, space became a principal concern. Such clumsy, indispensable, yet seldom-used items as bound newspapers, which might run into as many as a hundred volumes a title, were the harried librarian's bane. A few handy rolls of microfilm and a room with a small viewer relieved the pressures upon his shelf space immeasurably. It takes time, however, usually many weeks, sometimes many months, to secure a filmed copy of a single item. Delay of this sort is frustrating to the eager researcher. Anticipating the individual needs of such scholars, enterprising commercial and university groups began plotting projects on a grand scale. The result was the filming of great collections, at a small cost, for a nucleus of subscribing libraries. A library can now, for instance, purchase the entire 75,000 pages of periodical writing published in America before 1800 for \$425.00. It is easy to calculate the value of this rather modest purchase for researchers into early American printers, or the taste of the new nation in poetry, or the attitudes of articulate editors toward the Revolution. On a

more comprehensive plan, University Microfilms, Inc., has been issuing for the past nineteen years annual installments of a series which will eventually place in the subscribing libraries all English books, as well as books in other languages published in England, between the years 1475 and 1640. The subscription price amounts to \$500.00 annually, for which the library receives film of approximately 100,000 pages. Since there is not a single item in the listings which is not "rare", in book dealers' parlance, it is conservative to estimate that the originals of any one year's purchase would cost, hypothetically, between \$100,000.00 and \$250,000.00.

Yet microfilm is a tool which, while often indispensable, is never satisfactory. The simple truth is that most readers use it gratefully but nonetheless grudgingly. Long periods of concentration on microfilm, necessarily under poor lighting conditions, subject the reader to eye-strain. The actual mechanics of microfilm reading are tedious and time-consuming as compared with reading a book. And microfilm, of course, cannot travel home with the serious student or teacher who is willing to spend his post-evening hours at work (unless he is that rare individual who owns a microfilm viewer). The most serious inconvenience of all is that microfilm must be handled in sequence, as a book need not be. It takes at least three or four times as long to complete the same work with microfilm as with books. When such inefficiency is multiplied by the number of faculty and students eligible to use microfilm materials in a university the size of Rice, the intellectual loss becomes appallingly great, not to say costly, to the university. Finally it will be clear from these observations that microfilm reading assignments for students in a class of fair size are impracticable within the space and schedule limitations of

the normal university library.

As the public market for scholarly books increased with the great development in institutional collections in recent decades, as the classics of reference became more and more indispensable and less and less available, several techniques were encouraged to meet the demand. The most primitive and makeshift of these was a wider use of photostatic reproductions. This technique, known early in the twentieth century, but now so common that literally millions of sheets are made daily for commercial, government, and institutional use, is excellent and economical for reproducing brief documents, such as birth certificates or sales records. But the cost becomes prohibitive (averaging about twenty-five to thirty cents a page) for the book of normal size. Such books, even when reproduced at great cost, are difficult special binding problems. If a volume is of great significance and value, it may well find its way from photostatic sheets into a bound form on the library's shelves. But it will be less easy to read and less durable (owing to the special photographic papers used in the process) than its original. Clearly, if an individual worker needs an individual item which is indispensable to his work, a photostatic copy may be preferable to a microfilm version; but no university could long afford to lavish such productions upon its scholars and students in any significant quantity within a reasonable economy.

Certain items, however, are of sufficiently wide appeal that many publishers now regularly produce limited editions of out-of-print works through lithographic extensions of the photographic reproduction process. In such processes the photographic copy is transferred to one or another form of printing plate and an issue is printed from

this stage. It is now common practice to issue by means of these lithographic processes important and rare scholarly books, as well as additional printings of more popular books for which the type has been broken up by the printer. This is indeed an answer to many of the library's problems, since these editions are usually offered at a price considerably cheaper than the original would command in the out-of-print market, and are in most instances as legible and in every respect as desirable as the original. The limitation, alas, is that not every one of the thousands of books which someone, somewhere, must use, can be so reproduced within the limits of a sub-utopian budget.

A little over two years ago, however, University Microfilms, Inc. initiated a new project, the results of which are most exciting for the future of university libraries. This is the manufacture of individually reproduced copies by a process called xerox. In brief, it allows the publisher to print directly from a microfilm negative on a continuous accordian web of regular book paper an actual-sized copy of any but the most abnormally-shaped book. The product comes ready-bound and costs between three and four cents a page. The result is, that of almost any book now extant, a permanently useable copy can be reproduced and set immediately upon the library shelves for between two and twenty dollars. On the average, a xerox reprint of a relatively recent out-of-print book will cost about one and one-third to one and one-half of its original price. Older rare books can now be had at a small fraction of their antiquarian catalog prices.

This new process is, of course, an unexpected benefit from modern technology to the scholar and the institute which cooperates in his research.

But to enjoy the full advantage of this new mode of book production, institutions and individuals must look beyond their day-to-day and month-to-month needs. The university whose administrative officers, librarians, and faculty are willing to plan far ahead now has an opportunity to move rapidly into the select group of universities long led by Harvard and Yale.

An imaginative university can now convince interested alumni and friends that a special investment over a number of years in xerox books will develop not only a good research library but a complete one. With xerox no book will ever again be unavailable in an absolute sense. For the first time in history it is now possible for a librarian to plan a schedule for giving the institution a complete collection of eighteenth-century economic documents, a complete collection of Spanish plays. Such a library, providing almost limitless opportunities for research, will in due time attract the ablest scholars, to whom discovery is a way of life. They, in turn, will draw the students of greatest promise, and thus there will be created a new intellectual center of the human enterprise.

Jackson I. Cope

PERIODICALS NEEDED BY THE FONDREN LIBRARY

American Bar Association Journal

1953	v.39:3,7,9,10,11,12	March, July, Sept., Oct., Nov., Dec.
1954	v.40:3-4	March, April
1959	v.45:8	August

American Economic Review

1959	v.49, no. 4	Sept.
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Archaeology

1959	v.12, no. 2	April
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Catholic World

1959	v.190, no. 1137	Dec.
1960	v.192, no. 1147	Oct.

Current History

1958	v.35, no. 203	July
1959	v.36, no. 209	Jan.
1960	v.38, no. 226	June
1960	v.39, no. 227	July

Think

1959	v.25, no. 10	Oct.
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Journal of Political Economy

1959	v.67, no. 4	Aug.
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U.S. Command & General Staff School, Military Review

1959	v.39, no. 12	March
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Princeton University Library Chronicle

1958	v.20, no. 1	
1959	v.20, no. 4	

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

The Fondren Library staff announces the completion of "Scientific and Technical Serial Publications in the Libraries of Rice University and the University of Houston". This handsome volume, which lists about 3200 serials in Fondren and about 1700 in the University of Houston Library, was a special project this past year of the Fondren Library staff. An earlier list, published in 1954, which contained about 2600 titles, had proved of great value and usefulness to research libraries in Houston.

Thirty Houston firms gave financial support to provide additional clerical help and to cover the actual publication costs of this expanded list, but the greater amount of the work was done by the Fondren Library staff, with the cooperation of the staff of the University of Houston. The project was under the sponsorship of the Texas Chapter of the Special Libraries Association. The publication

of this long-awaited list of the holdings of two large libraries means that Houston librarians have taken a long step forward towards better service to libraries, schools, and industries in this region.

A committee headed by Richard O'Keefe, Fondren's Assistant Librarian, is working on plans to bring this list up to date at regular intervals. We hope that the next edition will include the serial holdings in science and technology of all other important libraries in the Houston area.

RANDOM SELECTION OF RECENT ACQUISITIONS
BY FONDREN LIBRARY

The following list is undertaken to draw the attention of readers to material recently acquired by the Library. The items were chosen from thousands of titles added to the collection (some already on the shelves, some being processed), in an attempt to sample the many different subject fields, the various forms of material, and the widespread dates and places of publication.

Arts Anatomica; International Archives of Anatomy, Histology, Embryology and Cytology. Basel, v.40, (1960)-

Colombia. Instituto Geologico Nacional. Compilacion de los Estudios Geologicos Oficiales en Colombia. 1933-1947, 10 vol.

Experimental Neurology. N. Y., v. 1, 1959-

Index Chemicus. Philadelphia, v. 1, 1960-

Albert I, Prince of Monaco, 1848-1922. Resultats des Campagnes Scientifiques Accomplies sur Son Yacht par Albert Ier. Monaco, 1889-1950, 106 vols.

International Conference on Electron Microscopy. Proceedings. 1949-

Galilei, Galileo. Le Opere di Galileo Galilei. Firenze, 1929-39, 20 vols. in 21.

McGraw-Hill Encyclopedia of Science and Technology. New York, 1960. 15 vols.

Société Géologique de Belgique. Annales. 1-78
(1874-1955); 81-

Société Géologique de Normandie et des Amis du
Museum du Havre. Bulletin. Le Havre, 1873-
1958. v. 1-48

Tax, Sol, ed. Evolution After Darwin, Chicago,
1960

Valdivia Expedition, 1898-1899. Wissenschaftliche
Ergbnisse der Deutschen Tiefsee-Expedition auf
dem Dampfer "Valdivia," 1898-1899. Jena,
1902-40. 24 vols.

Who's who in Soviet Science and Technology.
N. Y. 1960.

Anthropological Records, Berkeley, Calif., 1960-

Bradley, John W. Dictionary of Miniaturists,
Illuminators, Calligraphers, and Copyists.
N. Y., 1958.

Burton, William Henry, Education for Effective
Thinking. N. Y., 1960.

Calvin, Jean. Commentaries. 45 vol. Grand
Rapids, 1948.

*Bulas, Casimierz. The Kosciuzko Foundation
Dictionary, I, English-Polish. The Hague,
1959.

Canadian Linguistic Society. Journal. Edmonton,
1954-

*Mr. Bulas is the Fondren's Acquisitions Research
Librarian. An article about his dictionary will
appear in a later issue of the FLYLEAF.

Claudel, Paul. Oeuvres Complètes. 16 vol. Paris, 1958.

Clemens, Samuel. Mark Twain - Howells Letters. Cambridge, 1960.

Daniel, George. Poems. 4 vol. Boston, Eng., 1878.

Ethnographic Survey of Africa. 27 vol. London, 1956.

Journal of Educational Psychology. N. Y., 1960-

Journal of Health & Human Behavior, Ft. Worth, 1960-

Japanese Psychological Research. Tokyo, 1954-

Handbook of Basic Economic Statistics, Washington, 1960.

Japan Biographical Encyclopedia and Who's Who. Tokyo, 1960.

Friedman, Wolfgang. Legal Aspects of Foreign Investment. Boston, 1959.

Great Britain. Committee on the Working of the Monetary System. Minutes of Evidence. London, 1960.

Hax, Karl. Handbuch der Wirtschaftswissenschaften. Köln, 1958-59.

Lapide, Cornelius. Commentarii in Scripturam Sacram. 10 vol. Paris, 1854.

Male, Emile. The Early Churches of Rome. Chicago, 1960.

Gale Research. Directory of University Research Bureaus and Institutes. Detroit, 1959.

Hinsie, Leland Earl. Psychiatric Dictionary.
N. Y., 1960.

Brecht, Arnold. Political Theory: The Foundations
of Twentieth Century Political Thought. Princeton,
1959.

Human Relations Areas Files. (Filmcards)
New Haven, 195

Friedman, Wolfgang. Legal Aspects of Foreign
Investment. Boston, 1959.

Masters of World Architecture Series. N. Y., 1960.
(LeCorbusier, Aalto, Gaudi, Nervi, Van der Rohe,
Wright)

Pope, Alexander. The Dunciad, Variorum. London, 1729

Review of Social Economy. v. 1-15 (Fill-in)

Richler, Max, ed. Die Sozialreform; Dokumente and
Stellingsnahmen. Bad Godesberg, 1955-

Poggiali, Renato. The Poets of Russia.
Cambridge, 1960.

Roth, Philip. Goodby Columbus, N.Y., 1960.

Shirer, William. The Rise and Fall of the Third
Reich. N.Y., 1960.

Canaday, John E., Mainstreams of Modern Art.
N. Y., 1959.

Stewart, James M., Rudyard Kipling, A Biblio-
graphical Catalogue. Toronto, 1959.

Sweezy, Maxine B., The Structure of Nazi Economy.
Cambridge, 1941.

Thompson, Stith. Motif-Index of Folk Literature.
Bloomington, Indiana, 1955-58.

Spencer, Sir Baldwin. The Northern Tribes of
Central Australia. London, 1904.

Steward, Julian Haynes. Handbook of South
American Indians (Fill-in)

U. S. Congress. Legislative Reference Service.
Documents Illustrative of the Formation of the
Union of the American States. Washington, 1960.

Wilbanks, Elsie. Art on the Texas Plains.
Lubbock, 1959.

Wilenski, Reginald. Flemish Painters. N. Y.,
1960.

Venturi, Lionello. Italian Painters of Today.
N. Y., 1959.

NEWSPAPERS ON MICROFILM

A gift of sixteen rolls of microfilm of the Houston Chronicle for the years 1901-1905 has been received. This film joins the Fondren's microfilm files of the Houston Post, the New York Times, the London Times, and the Christian Science Monitor. Gifts for the purchase of additional microfilm files will be most welcome.

COLLECTION OF RECORDS

Frank C. Smith, Jr. has made a gift of a collection of records, including symphonies, operatic selections, and others.

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